



THE HALLMARK SOCIETY

Dedicated to Preserving Historic and Architectural Landmarks

P.O. BOX 1204 VICTORIA B.C. V8W 2T6 CANADA

VOL. 9 #4

JUNE 1981 NEWSLETTER

JACKSON HOUSE 425(?) PARRY ST. The long-awaited completion of renovations on the Jackson House is imminent, and you are invited to an OPEN HOUSE, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 12th. It will not be the grand opening originally envisaged, as there has been a delay in designating the house as a heritage dwelling, partly due to the recent civic strike. As a result, the grant money which was to be used for painting will not be forthcoming in time to complete painting. For a number of reasons, not the least of which is that Stuart is leaving, it was deemed important to have the opening in early July, so we're painting a sample area to show the colour scheme that will be used. Contributions will be accepted toward the painting, landscaping and other work still to be done. There is a shortfall of approximately \$5,000-\$7,000 in renovation funding.

Elizabeth Davies is coordinating the Open House, and says she still needs a number of people who can be available for a few hours duty on July 12th, to talk to the public and answer their questions about the house and the Society. If you can help, please phone Elizabeth at 592-7607. The Victoria Costume Society and the Vintage Car Club will also participate in the Open House.

GODSPEED STUART This event will mark the swan song of our dedicated and daring president, Stuart Stark. He resigned at the last General Meeting, and shortly after the Open House is bound for England to be amongst the madding crowds celebrating the wedding of the Heir to the Throne and Lady Di. That taken care of, he will begin his architecture studies at UBC and will one day return to Victoria, where we hope there will still be plenty of heritage structures left for him to save, restore or whatever! Possibly only a few of us realize the extent of his contribution to the Hallmark Society; that he will be greatly missed is an understatement. Incidentally, the last time I talked to him, he was going to be renting his house for the duration of his absence. It is two bedrooms and den, plus the usual stuff, with a low maintenance garden, and will go for around \$600 monthly. If you know of a very good tenant, get in touch with him.

There will be a special presentation in Stuart's honour at 4 p.m. the day of the Open House. So please show up to see him off (and to help with cleanup too!).

GOOD LUCK PETER PREXY We are fortunate to have Peter Walton, Vice President, to step into Stuart's shoes for the duration. Peter has proved himself as Treasurer of the Hallmark Building Foundation, by ably steering the Jackson House project through a number of thorny financial problems. Please give him your full support in his new role.

GENERAL MEETING The last General Meeting was extremely well attended and many signed up to assist the Executive members on the new standing committees.

Paul Bennett's appointment as Member-at-Large replacing Marla Handley, was ratified. Welcome to the fray, Paul!

As I am sure most of you know, the Dorchester was completely bulldozed the weekend before the General Meeting, with nary a stick saved. It was in Oak Bay, of course.

Victoria, Remember when?--an entertaining and informative slide show and commentary, was given by Jessie Woollett. Excellent pictures, many with unusual perspective, and altogether a good show. I still think it would make a great book, Jessie!

RICHARD CARR HOUSE 207 GOVT. One of the BIG items discussed at the General Meeting on June 2nd was the offer by the Heritage Conservation Branch, Ministry of Provincial Secretary, to lease to the Hallmark Society on a long-term \$1 per year basis, the top floor of the Richard Carr House, Emily's birthplace! This was a rather unexpected happening, although the Society had earlier made recommendations, at the request of the Heritage Conservation Branch, as to usage of the building. We had suggested a museum-type use, so as to conserve the building. The deal now is that only the two front rooms on the first floor, plus the garden, are to be restored.

This development opens up many possibilities--among which are creating a tidy income for the Heritage Building Foundation by providing volunteer tour guides and running a gift shop and tea room on the premises. This, of course, would require great commitment from member volunteers, and so is a big decision. There is also the possibility of simply making like tenants on the top floor and going about our usual business from that location instead of the Jackson House. And of course, this would mean adding another room to the rental accommodations in the Jackson House.

Membership approval was given to the motion passed earlier that evening at the Executive Meeting, to strike a committee to meet with the Heritage Conservation Branch officials to further discuss this proposal. The committee is comprised of Peter Walton, 386-6142, Tom Pappajohn, 479-4176, and Paul Bennett.

GET
BUSY

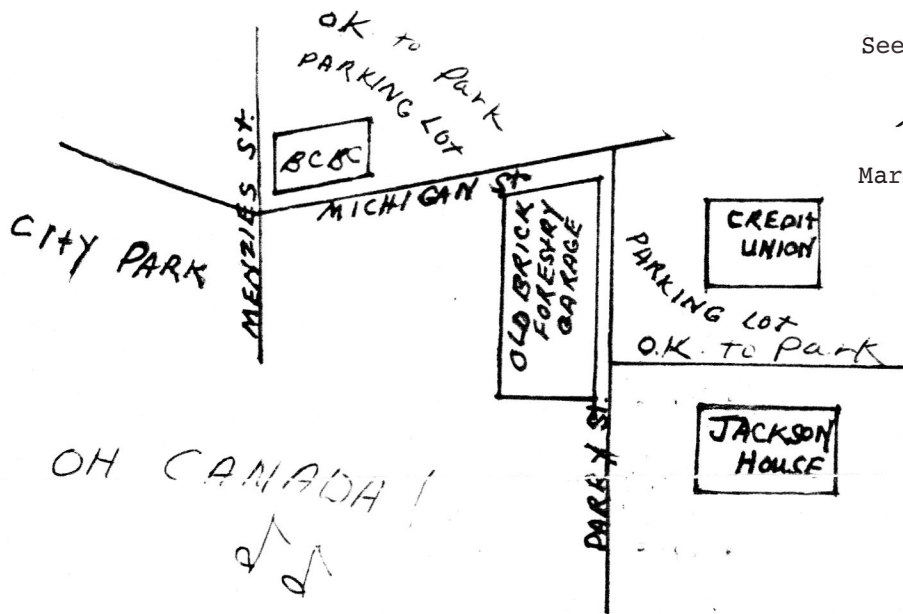
The ladies who run the annual bazaar ask that you begin now making things to sell in October. Those of us who are lucky enough to have gardens can dry flowers for bouquets or pictures or make a few extra jars of preserves, etc. Others can unearth a white elephant or two from the basement, which invites cleaning on the next sunny day--or use whatever special talent you possess to create something which can be sold to raise more bucks for the cause. If you have questions, please phone our faithful convenors, Jean McInnis at 386-6272, or Catherine Hodgens at 385-7595.

ANOTHER
RENTAL

I forgot to say earlier that the Jackson House will also be available to rent August 1st, barring any unforeseen problems. If you are interested, or know of anyone else who is, make it a point to go to the Open House on July 12th, and pick your suite.

DOORKNOBS
& SUCH

One final note--the man on Rockland Avenue who had his heritage door handle assembly stolen reports that the insurance company can't make up its mind whether the loss is covered or not!



See you at the Open House!

Marilyn Pollard, Editor